

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING February 9, 2023

Committee Members

Present

Lora Taylor, Committee
Chair
Ronnie Browning
Debbie Carlisle
Bill Coorsh
Kyle Cox
Kate Layman, HHSC
Sandra Magaña, UT-CDS
Jeff Miller, DRTx
Meagan Orsag, A&M CDD
Angie Panzica
Michael Peace
Eric Shahid

Guests Present

Carey Amthor
Jacquie Benestante
Dylan Bricker
Floyd Browning
Christina Bryant
Kimberly Degnan
Ashley Ford
Hannah Gill
Norman Kieke
Amy Litzinger
Linda Litzinger
Anne McGonigle
Manasi Mokashi
Christine Reyes
Austin Spratt

Regional Coordinators

Present

Erin Fogarty

Staff Members Present

Kai Brewer
Scott Daigle
Lauren Gerken
Sabrina Gonzalez
Le Lien
Linda Logan
Mary Rochford
Koren Vogel

Call to Order

The Public Policy Committee of the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities convened on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at the at the DoubleTree Suites by Hilton Hotel Austin, 303 W. 15th Street, Austin, TX 78701 as well as virtually using the Zoom platform. Committee Chair Lora Taylor called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. A quorum was present.

1. Introductions

Committee members, staff and guests were introduced.

2. Public Comments

No public comments were offered.

3. Consideration of Minutes

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the November 3, 2022, Public Policy Committee meeting and no additions or corrections were noted.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the November 3, 2022, Public Policy Committee meeting.

MADE BY: Debbie Carlisle

SECOND: Angie Panzica

The motion **passed** without opposition.

4. **Chair's Remarks**

A. Member Absences: Chair Taylor noted that there were no absences.

B. Chair's Quarterly Activities: Taylor discussed her activities regarding Durable Medical Equipment and the ongoing collaboration with a representative of AARP Texas on the matter.

5. **Member's Quarterly Activities Report**

Committee members provided updates from the previous quarter regarding involvement in advocacy and other activities.

6. **Legislative Visit Preparation**

TCDD Public Policy Director Scott Daigle presented to the Committee regarding materials provided for the Council's legislative office visits, as well as informational resources that are available from TCDD throughout the session.

7. **Presentation: 88th Texas Legislature**

Daigle moderated a panel discussion on the current legislative session. The panelists included Jacquie Benestante, Autism Society of Texas; Ashley Ford, The Arc of Texas; and Amy Litzinger, Texas Parent to Parent. The Committee then asked questions of the panelists.

8. **State and Federal Policy Update**

The TCDD Policy staff provided updates regarding activities on Early Childhood Intervention, mental health funding in our correctional system, and ending harmful student restraint practices.

9. **Public Input on Committee Discussion**

Hannah Gill, a TCDD-funded Public Policy Fellow at NAMI Texas, introduced herself to the Committee.

10. **Future Agenda Items**

Committee Member Kyle Cox suggested a future TCDD project to establish a cross-collaboration that better informs people on how to get services in Texas.

11. **Other Discussion Items**

No other items were discussed.

Adjourn

Committee Chair Taylor adjourned the Public Policy Committee at 11:46 a.m.

Beth Stalvey, Secretary to the Council Date